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A
REPLY
TO SOME
LIBELS

Lately Printed against

The Earl of Danby.

Together with some

OBSERVATIONS

UPON

Dr. Oates his Narrative

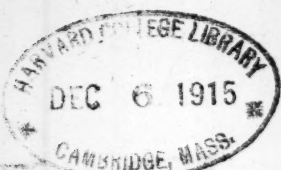
CONCERNING THE

CONSPIRACY

OF

Knorr, Lane, and Osborne,

Printed in the Year, M. DC. LXXX.



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A. Reply to J. Libels against J. Earl of Danby. 1680.

Printed in the Year MDCCLXXX

A

Reply to some Libels, &c.

THIS is a time when the Press does without Control take so great a Liberty of defaming both King and Government at their Pleasure, and the People do so easily believe whatever is in Print, (though never so false,) that it is not to be wondred to find any Subject of what quality soever exposed thereby to the most infamous Scandals and Untruth's: but when the Authours are known, they cannot expect but that they who are concern'd in such unjust Defamations, will require satisfaction at their Hands according to the Laws.

Of this Sort are two late Libels against the Earl of *Danby* and divers of his Family; One called, *The Domestick Intelligence*, dated *Fryday* the 28th. of *November*, 1679. Printed for *Benjamin Harris* at the Stationers Armes under the *Royal-Exchange*; And the other Intituled, *The Reputation of Dr. Oates Cleared*, in the Tryal of *Thomas Knox*, formerly a Servant to the Earl of *Danby* and the Lord *Dumblain* his Son, and Printed for *Robert Harford* at the *Angel* in *Cornhil*, 1679.

In the first, It is said in one place, That *Thomas Knox* is belonging to the Earl of *Danby's* Family; whereas he hath been discharged from the said Earl's Family above 15 Moneths since. And in another place of the said Pamphlet, it is said, That on *Tuesday* the 25th of *November* last, Mr. *Dangerfield* made it appear at the *Kings-Bench*, that the Earl of *Danby* and some others of the Family were concerned in managing the whole Accusation; and that the Earl of *Danby* was so confident of Success, that he thereupon surrendered up himself to the Usher of the *Black Rod* when the Parliament sat. All which is so notoriously false, that Mr. *Dangerfield* did not speak one such word in Court; but on the contrary, by a Narrative of the said Mr. *Dangerfield's* now in Print, there is enough to Convince any Impartial Reader, that what Contrivance may have been made by the *Papists* against any *Protestant* whatsoever, has been

been indeavoured to be put as maliciously in Execution against the said Earl.

But to return to *Benjamin Harris*, I suppose he is in Fee to write Lies particularly against the Earl of *Danby*, ~~and~~ he is to send ~~the~~ *as* every week all over the Kingdome; in which I will appeal to every Reader, whether there be one truth in Ten in that *Weekly Intelligence*, any more than was in his Story of a great many Pistols taken in the Earl's Chamber in the Tower, though there never came one into the House where the Earl lodgeth: And so likewise in his Pamphlet of the 9th of *December* last, about the Judges Opinions concerning the Earl of *Danby*, where he tells a formal story of that matter; whereas they only answered, That the Petition of the said Earl could not legally be granted; and yet this so notorious Libel is weekly sent abroad with a Title to it of being published to prevent false Reports.

Some few dayes after the said Libel of the 28th of *November*, came forth that other already mentioned, under the name of clearing *Dr. Oates* his Reputation; but in truth doing so much the contrary, that the Doctor himself ownes it to be false; as indeed it has had the impudence to falsifie a Record (*viz.*) the Doctors Indictment against *Knox* and *Lane*: And that this may the better appear, I have here incerted out of *Dr. Oates* his own Narrative, the Abstract of the said Indictment, which is in Page 2 d. as followeth.

Novemb. 25. 1679. Dominus Rex versus Thomam Knox & Johannem Lane. For the King.

THe Indictment sets forth, That whereas *Edward Coleman*, *William Ireland*, and *John Groves* and other false Traytors to the Jurors unknown, 24th of April in the 30th year of the King that now is, at the Parish of *St. Margarets Westminster*, did Trayterously Conspire, Consult and Agree amongst themselves to kill and destroy the King, and to raise War against his Majestie within this Kingdom, and to change the Religion by Law established, to the Superstition of the Church of Rome; for which Treasons, Trayterous Conspiracies, Consultations and Agreements, the said Coleman, Ireland and Groves were afterwards attainted and put to death for the same.

And whereas *William Earl of Powis*, *William Viscount Stafford*, *John Lord Bellasis*, *Henry Lord Arundel of Wardour*, *William Lord Petre*, and *Sir Henry Tichbourn*, Baronet, the 30th of November

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venner last at Westminster were accused of the Treasons aforesaid, and thereupon according to due form of Law were committed to the Tower of London, to be there safely kept to answer the said Treasons whereof the said Earl of Powis and the other four Lords were by the Commons in Parliament assembled, Impeached.

And whereas Thomas Earl of Danby afterwards, That is to say, the 30th of November last at Westminster, was in lawful manner accused of certain Treasons and other Misdemeanours, and thereupon according to due form of Law was committed to the Tower, there to be safe kept to answer the Treasons and Misdemeanours aforesaid; of which said Treasons and Misdemeanours, the said Earl of Danby is Impeached by the Commons in Parliament Assembled.

And that the Defendants knowing the said Lords to be accused of the Treasons and Misdemeanours aforesaid; and the said Defendants being diabolically affected towards the King their natural Lord, and Contriving and endeavouring with all their might to disturb, hinder and stifle the discovery of the said Treasons by the said Earl of Powis, Viscount Stafford, Lord Bellasis, Henry Lord Arundel, William Lord Petre, supposed to be Committed as aforesaid; and as much as in them lay to elude the due course of Law and retard the Prosecution of Justice against the said Five Lords, Sir Henry Tichborne, and Thomas Earl of Danby.

They the said Defendants the 30th of April last past at the Parish aforesaid in the County aforesaid, falsely, maliciously and unlawfully amongst themselves did consult and agree to scandalize Titus Oates, Clerk, and William Bedlow, Gent. who had given Informations of the Treasons aforesaid, and whom the said Defendants knew to have given Informations aforesaid against the Earl of Powis, Viscount Stafford, Lords Bellasis, Arundel and Petre, and to represent them upon the Tryal of the said Five Lords, to be Persons of Evil Conversation, and Witnesses not to be believed.

And that the Defendant Knox afterwards, that is to say, the 30th of April last at Westminster aforesaid, in the names and with the consent and agreement of the Defendant Lane, and William Osborn, to villifie the Information of the said Titus Oates, and William Bedlow, to be given for the King against the said Five Lords last mentioned; falsely, maliciously, subtilly and advisedly did write and cause to be written four Letters, and those Letters so written falsely &c. did direct and cause to be delivered to himself the said Defendant Knox; by which said Letters it was Falsely, Craftily and Deceitfully declared, That the said Lane and Osborn were very much troubled in their Consciences by reason of certain matters, which they well knew and did conceal concerning the unjust Contrivances

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of the said Titus Oates, and William Bedlow, in accusing the said Earl of Danby to be guilty of the Treasons and other Misdemeanours aforesaid.

And that the said Titus Oates was a Person of a wicked and vitious Life, and did make an Assault upon the said John Lane, and did endeavour to commit with him, the said Lane, Sodomy.

And further, That the Defendant Knox, the sooner and more effectually to persuade the said Lane and Osborn falsely to accuse the said Titus Oates and William Bedlow, that they the said Titus Oates, and William Bedlow had unjustly, contrary to all truth, accused the said Earl of Danby of the Treasons and other Misdemeanours aforesaid, and so to affirm against the Kings Evidence upon the Tryal to be had of the said Earl of Danby for the Treasons and Misdemeanours aforesaid, afterwards the 30th of April last at Westminster, falsely, advisedly, corruptly and against the Duty of his Allegiance, did give to the said Lane and Osborn divers great Sums of Money. And did promise to the said Lane and Osborn, within a certain time by the said Defendant Knox proposed, That the said Lane and Osborn should have and receive other great Sums and other Rewards for the same, to the great delay, obstruction and suppression of Justice, &c.

Although I shall by and by say something to what concerns the Earl of Danby in the said Indictment, yet my present aim in reciting it, is, to shew the Egregious malice as well as falshood of the aforesaid Libel against the said Earl and his whole Family; (for almost all the Errors in falsifying the said Indictment do concern his Lordship or Family) and to prepare the Reader for his Poison, he says Knox was formerly Servant to the Earl of Danby; which he never was, but only to one of his Sons, and discharged long before any of those Contrivances are pretended. But because the Libeller is resolved to do his business as home as lay in his power, he would rather belie a Record, and run the hazard of any Scandal, than not venture to say, That the Indictment set forth,

First, That the said Knox had obliged himself to introduce one Wiggins and Lane into Company with the Earl of Danby at any hour in the night Season.

Secondly, That the Countess of Danby (who well approved of what Lane had ingaged to endeavour) did likewise offer to introduce the said Wiggins and his Mother to her Lord in her own Coach at any time.

Thirdly, That they (meaning Knox, Lane, and Osborn) delivered their Information against Dr. Oates to the Lord Latimer, who

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who kept it a few daies, and then delivered it back to be conveyed to the Lord Powis to amend.

Fourthly, That *Knox* did promise them beneficial places either in the Treasury or Customs, as from the Earl of Danby.

Fifthly, That they did believe that the Earl of *Danby* only, in confidence of the Success of the design, did render himself to the Black Rod.

Now, as you see, there is not one word of all this in the afore-said Indictment. So (if this Libeller may be believed in any thing) he tells you, That Mr. *Thomas Willoughby*, alias *Dangerfield*, drew the Affidavits himself out of *Lanes* papers: and I desire the Reader both to take notice from Mr. *Dangerfield's* own Narrative, whose Agent he the said Mr. *Dangerfield* was, as appears page 14. and to observe from what follows, what Acquaintance or Correspondence there has been at any time betwixt the Earl of *Powis* and the Earl of *Danby* or Lord *Latimer*, or any of the Family. But having laid open the great falshood of those Libels, I shall trouble you no further with them at present, but leave their Authors to their due prosecutions of the Law, which I doubt not but will meet with them.

I now come to what I am sorry to find in Dr. *Oates* his own Narrative concerning the said Earl, because it is not suitable to his present work of defending the Protestant Interest, to endeavour the destruction of any Protestant, without great reason so to do; and in the person of the Earl of *Danby* he ought to have been more sparing than of most men, unless he could have made out some evident demonstration of his Guilt; whereas he did never before pretend to accuse the said Earl of any thing, nor through the whole Narrative does he charge him with any one Crime, but only with Suppositions and Reflections, without any ground for them; I say, that without clear proof of some fault, the Doctor ought to have been more sparing of this Lord, because he knows very well how long he received protection by his care, when although Dr. *Oates* was not personally known to the Earl, yet himself knows, and Dr. *Tong* can testifie, that it was for many weeks in the Earl's power to have put an end to the Plot, and to have given both of them into the Hands of their Enemies, without appearing at all in it himself, if he would but have given the least intimation to the *Papists* of what they were about, and the place of their meetings, which both the said Doctors do know his Lordship was several times Privy to. It is to be observed also, That for a great while after the publication of Dr.

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Tong's Informations in Council, and that the Earl knew the name and had seen the person of Dr. *Oates*, the said Doctor was so sensible of these Obligations to the Earl, that instead of saying any thing to his prejudice, he gave him several good Characters; until the King and Councils Orders about money for him were short of his Expectations; and then indeed, but never till then, he began to complain of the said Earl as the cause of his not being better rewarded; and since that time ha's exprest several dislikes of the said Earl; but that it may appear to be his dislike only, and nothing which could be materially objected against the Earl, I have toucht all the points in his Narrative which concerns the said Earl, and leave it to the Judgment of the Reader, whether such way of proceeding can be thought just towards any man. And,

First, For the Indictment it self, which I have already recited out of his own Narrative, and by which there appears too much forwardness to hurt the said Earl, and to throw ill Reflections upon him, but that there was such want of matter, that it could only set forth against the Earl,

First, That on the 30th of November last the said Earl stood Impeached in Parliament of *High Treason*.

Secondly, That the Defendants (meaning *Knox*, *Lane* and *Osborne*) knowing the Five *Papish* Lords in the Tower and the Earl of *Danby* to be accused and impeached of Treasons, and the said Defendants contriving and endeavouring to disturb, hinder and stifle the discovery of the Treasons supposed to be committed by the said Five *Papish* Lords, and to elude the due Course of Law, and retard the prosecution of Justice against the said Five Lords, and Sir *Henry Tichborne* and *Thomas* Earl of *Danby*; did on the 30th of April last consult and agree to scandalize Dr. *Oates*, and Mr. *Bedlow*, whom the Defendants knew to have given Informations of the Treasons against the Five *Papish* Lords, and with intent to represent them Witnesses not to be beleived upon the Tryal of the said Five Lords.

Thirdly, That the Defendant *Knox* the 30th of April last, did agree with *Lane* and *Osborne* to have 4 Letters written to himself, in which it was falsly &c. declared, That the said *Lane* and *Osborne* were troubled by reason of matters they knew and concealed concerning the contrivance of Dr. *Oates* and Mr. *Bedlow* in accusing the Earl of *Danby* of the Treasons &c.

Fourthly, That the said *Knox* to perswade the said *Lane* and *Osborne*

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born to accuse *Titus Oates* and *William Bedlow* that they had unjustly accused the said *Earl*, and to affirm against the Kings Evidence against the Tryal to be had of the said *Earl* for the Treasons aforesaid, did fallly give great Sumes of money to the said *Lane* and *Osborn*, and did promise the said *Lane* and *Osborn*, that they should have other great Sumes and other Rewards for the same.

Here the Doctor doth not add (as the Pamphlet Printed for *Robert Hayford*) the words as from the *Earl of Danby*; for he very well knew, that the first Letters of their Correspondence were but in April, and that the *Earl of Danby* had quitted his Place in March before, so that he had no places in the Treasury or Customs to promise; but I wonder he should in the 4th Paragraph say these words (viz.) against the Tryal to be had of the said *Earl* for the Treasons aforesaid, when there were no Treasons at all alledged against the said *Earl*, either by *Mr. Oates* or *Mr. Bedlow*.

Now I pray the Reader to take notice what pains has been taken to get the name of the *Earl of Danby* crowded amongst the Popish Lords.

For as to the first Paragraph every body knew before. As to the second, it is only pretended, That on the *Earl of Danby's* behalf the Defendants designed to retard the prosecution of Justice against the Five Lords and him. In the third the *Earl of Danby* is only named about *Lane* and *Osborne's* tender Consciences concerning him. And in the fourth, that *Knox* did give great Sums, and promise other great Rewards (but say's not from whom) to make *Lane* and *Osborn* affirm against the King's Evidence upon the Tryal to be had of the *Earl* for the Treasons aforesaid, which I have already Remarked.

All these (save the last) are so frivolous, that they need no Answer; and how any of them are proved, appears not, unless the Informations of men swearing one thing to day, and another to morrow, be good evidence, which the Court ha's justly agreed them not to be; but if they were, it amounts to no more concerning the *Earl of Danby*, than things said to them by *Knox*, who might probably be employed in this as well as other matters by those who *Mr. Dangerfield* has proved to have released and maintained him; and who was never considerable enough in the *Earl's* Family, to be trusted by the said *Earl* in any business at all. Besides that, in February before these practices, the *Earl* had caused him to be called before the Council, and to be severely rebuked there, for having used his Lordships name in matters of the like

nature about one *Wiggins*, without his Lordship's Privie, as was then confessed by the said *Knox*: and I am credibly informed, that during his Abode in the said Family, he never had any admittance to his Lordship, other than as any inferiour Servant in the House. But not to dwell any longer upon Circumstances, it had been necessary for the making their story good on any side, to have found first, That Dr. *Oates* or Mr. *Bedlow* had been Witnesses to be used against the *Earl* at his Tryal, or else how could the Affirming against their evidence signifie any thing, either to the retarding the *Earl's* Tryal, or the doing him prejudice at his Tryal? And consequently why should either Money or other Rewards be promised on the *Earl's* behalf, for that which could not have availed him six pence, if all had been effected which those Defendants were about to prove? But I confess, it is very possible the *Popish* Lords might have found benefit by blasting the Kings Evidence against any body, and those who would make this *Earl* bear the burden of their Murders, might probably enough, find him the fittest Subject to sacrifice for any other of their purposes. But to shew that Dr. *Oates* nor *Bedlow* were not concern'd as Witnesses against this *Earl*,

First, It is known, That the *Earl's* Accusation is contained in an Impeachment of six Articles from the House of Commons, and brought up to the Lords the 23th of December 1678.

Secondly, It is known likewise, That Dr. *Oates* and Mr. *Bedlow* have sworn both in Parliament and before the Council, that they had nothing to say against any Peer but those named in their Accusations, of whom the *Earl* of *Danby* is none.

Thirdly, It is known, That what Mr. *Bedlow* pretends to say against the said *Earl*, is in the February after the Impeachment of the *Earl*, and upon new matter; (so great a Fool must the *Earl* be, if that should prove true) but yet if it were so, it is no charge of Treason, nor does it relate to the proving of the Charge of which the *Earl* stands accused in Parliament.

All this I say is so well known, that I wonder every man's Memory should not serve him, to vindicate the *Earl* from those aspersions; but I suppose the calling them to mind will be sufficient, and must also necessarily satisfy all men, that the *Earl's* delivery of himself to the Black Rod, could not possibly proceed from any success he hoped or needed from what either those Defendants or any body else should prove against Dr. *Oates* or Mr. *Bedlow*, in relation to the *Earl's* Tryal, who was not accused by them.

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But I must needs say, I wonder yet more (and with some men it would be apt to create a hard opinion) why Dr. Oates should be the Author of so many ill Reflections on this *Earl*, as are scatter'd through the whole Narrative, when his safety depended so long upon the care of that Lord, that in all places abroad, and by many at home, he is to this day thought to have been a contriver of the Plot with the Doctor. He says in his 3^d page, That when he had informed the Reader that *Knox* had formerly been a Servant to one of the *Earl's* Sons, he would easily suggest to himself the reason why he was so active an Instrument in this great Affair, (although he knows it could only have been to serve the *Popish* Lords, and do himself no good) and the Doctor himself observes at the bottom of page 4th, That if a Conspiracy could be proved against the late Lord Treasurer, it would make the Evidence against the *Popish* Lords vanish into smoke; in which I agree with the Doctor, That the design might be to falsifie the Testimony of Mr. Oates and Bedlow about the *Earl of Danby*, to the end they might be of no Use against any others: but I am sure the Doctor cannot believe the following words (viz.) That the *Earl's* Confidence of Success made him surrender himself; because he knows (as I have said already) that he was no Witness against the *Earl*: Besides, the *Earl* delivered himself the 15th of April, and it appears these Defendants were not with Justice Dewy till the 19th, and after that with the Secretary of State, and the Privy Council; so that on the 15th that matter was not ripe enough for any body (who had been concern'd) to promise themselves success: and who ever knows the *Earl*, will scarce believe of him, that if he had needed them, (as he did not) he would have relied upon the words of two inferior Fellows, who were servants to the Doctor himself, and whom the *Earl* had never seen nor heard of before, and of whom the Doctor himself saies at the bottom of page 9th, That as it is great pitty all false accusers have not their Crimes engraven in their fore-heads with an hot Iron, so the Doctor and Capt. Bedlow must be supposed to be bereaft of their Understandings, that would contrive this villany against the Lord Treasurer, in the Hearing of a shabby Servant, who for bread came into his Service, and for better fare would quit it at a days warning. It had been equally credible, had they sworn that they had Proclaimed it by the Common Cryer. How much less credible must it therefore be, that they should be trusted by one who is a stranger to them, and when their Treachery to their own Master must alone have been sufficient to deter any other from putting confidence in such Persons.

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The Doctor is also often pleased to call the Earl their great Patron, although he does many times quote Mr. *Dangerfield* and Colonel *Mansel's* Proofs, of their being Agents for the *Papish* Lords, and they being rewarded by them, and has no other Argument against the Earl of *Danby*, saving, That *Knox* was formerly a servant to one of his Sons; and he would seem to reflect upon one of the Earl's Sons, because *Knox* made Use of his name to a Justice of Peace; which is probably not true, because the Justice declared in Court, he was not known to him; but if it had been so, I think the fault had been on the other side, if a Son hearing any thing which concern'd the Life of his Father, had not endeavoured by all waies and means to get the truth discovered.

These things, I must confess, to me do not seem suitable to the Doctor's other good services, nor to the Introduction of his own Narrative, nor to the profession of a Divine, who (as he saies of himself, page the 9th.) *who ever knowes must confess him a Person, who has learnt the moderation of the Tongue to that exactness, that he could not possibly be guilty of such Extravagances as are said against him.* And in the Introduction, page the 3d. he calls it a *Cursed Design* to invalidate his Testimony and Mr. *Bedlow's*, by fixing upon them a Conspiracy against the Life of the Earl of *Danby*; and immediately in the same page, he justly accuses those men of prostituted Consciences, who attempt the Murder of his good name; I cannot therefore but hope from that good and pious Rule, that the Doctor intends not those Reflections so ill against the Earl, as they are generally understood (unless, as I have said before) he had had some demonstration of a Crime to be objected against the said Earl; whereas nothing does appear through the whole Narrative, but what arises out of *Lane* and *Osborn's* Informations, who have been so many times forsworn, and which at best would have been but Hear-sayes from *Knox*, whom Mr. *Dangerfield* shews to have been one of the *Papish* Agents at the same time with himself; out of whose Narrative I will refresh your Memory with some passages which relate to this matter.

In the beginning of it, Mr. *Dangerfield* relates his being taken out of Prison, and employed by the *Papists* only; and in page the 7th he tells you, That they gave him Money to compound his Debts, which were near 700*l.* (so considerable an Agent Mr. *Dangerfield* was designed to be for them;) and one of the first Services which he was to be employ'd in, was, to destroy at least the Reputation,

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reputation if not the Life of the Earl of *Danby*; by being put to disperse the *Danby-Reflections*, written by *Nevile*, at the same time when the said *Nevile* sent him the Letter about giving *Opium* to *Stroud*; and the Countess of *Powis* used to send for the said *Reflections* as they were transcribing; and once sent him 5 Guineys to encourage him, as appears page the 5th.

In the 8th page the said Countess tells him, he was yet but upon small business, but there were other Affairs cut out for him, which appears, by the following discourse, to be,

First, Endeavours to kill the King, or at least the Earl of *Shaftsbury*.

Secondly, To lay the Murther of Sir *Edmund-bury Godfrey* to the Earl of *Danby*.

Thirdly, And to lay the Plot to the *Presbyterians*.

And of these Designs, they begin with Charging the said Murder on the said Earl of *Danby*, as appears in the pages 16 and 17.

By the 11th page, It appears, that *Nevile* was a principal man, both for his Pen and his Advice, in giving Instructions; and we find that Pen as bitterly employ'd against the Earl of *Danby*, as any other against whom their Contrivances were designed.

In the pages 12, 13, 14, 15. is the History of the Contrivances about Dr. *Oates*; which pages I have caused to be Printed and Annexed, because it will thereby clearly appear,

First, That the *Papists* were the sole managers of that whole business against the Doctor.

Secondly, That *Lane* in his first Letter (page 13) writes, That he will do the *Catholicks* the greatest service imaginable, by discovering what he knowes.

Thirdly, That Mr. *Dangerfield* released *Lane*. And Mr. *Nevile* (the Earl of *Danby*'s good Friend) released *Knox*, who (notwithstanding) must now be thought the Earl of *Danby*'s Agent. (so ill doe the designs of the Earl's Enemies agree with their malice.)

Fourthly, That *Knox*, when released, came to *Powis-House*; where by the said Countesses Order, he treated with Mrs. *Celliers* about Indicting of *Oates*.

Fifthly, That his Papers were delivered to Mr. *Dangerfield*.

Sixthly, That *Dangerfield* sent them to the Tower (and by the way, amongst Mr. *Dangerfield*'s many Journeys to the Tower, none of them was ever to the Earl of *Danby*.)

Seventhly, That he drew an Affidavit for *Lane*.

Eighthly, That the Indictment against *Oates* was Penn'd by the Lord *Castlemain*, and *Nevile*.

Ninthly, That *Knox* not being in a Condition to defend his Tryal

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(having often desired to borrow money of Mr. *Dangerfield*) the said Countess promised him Money; and if he should want at any time, Mr. *Dangerfield* should furnish him.

Tenthly, That Lord *Powis* sent *Lane* out of the way into *Essex*, and took Care for their Lodgings.

In the pages 68 and 69 appears *Nevil's* own Confession, That the *Danby*-Reflections pass'd by his Hands:

That he gave his Advice upon the Papers of *Knox*, *Lane* and *Osborn*; and he acknowledges,

That he had twenty times advised the Indicting Oates and Bedlow.

Now as all these are matters of Fact (if Mr. *Dangerfield's* Evidence be good) so I think this alone would be sufficient to clear the *Earl of Danby*, or any of his Family, from those base foregoing aspersions which are thrown upon them.

By a Clause in page 23 they seem to joyn the *Earl of Shaftsbury* with the *Earl of Danby* for the Murder of Sir *Edmundb. Godfrey*, where the Lord *Powis* (speaking how easily his man *Wood* might have killed Lord *Shaftsbury*) says, *If we were rid of him (as they were of Sir Edmundb. Godfrey) &c.* by which they must certainly intend the *Earl of Shaftsbury*, to be understood for one, as by the same Lord or Lady, or both, the *Earl of Danby* has been named for another; and to say truth, the only difference of their usage betwixt the *Earl of Shaftsbury* and *Earl of Danby* has been, that they would have Murdered the first by a dagger, and the latter by a pretence of Justice, together with the infamous Murder of his good Name.

Although what has been said, cannot but be sufficient to satisfy all reasonable men of the falshood of the foregoing Aspersions; yet to such a degree is the malice of some men raised against the said *Earl*, and all untruths of that kind are so readily believed, that it may perhaps be necessary to let it be known, That the *Earl of Danby* nor his Son *Latimer*, who ought to have great intimacy with the *Earl of Powis* (if some of the foregoing Reflections were true) have scarce any acquaintance with the said *Earl*, saving that the *Earl of Danby* hath sometimes had occasion of sending to the said *Earl* for Rent due to him; but I have great reason to believe them to be so much strangers to one another, that although both of them have been divers Months Prisoners in the Tower, I am satisfied by enquiry, there never pass'd one Visit betwixt them, nor do I believe they have ever spoke to one another in the whole time of their Imprisonments; and truly by what is informed by Mr. *Dangerfield*, and in a manner confessed by Mr. *Nevile*, the *Earl of Danby* hath as little Obligation to the *Earl of Powis*, as he hath Acquaintance with him.

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I fear he is not much more beholding to any of that Religion; nor can I imagine why they should be thought to mean better to the *Earl of Danby*, than to those on whom they would have laid the *Presbyterian Plot*; when the same hand (*viz. Neville*) was the Instrument of framing the contrivances against both, and to the destruction of both, if their Designs could have taken effect: for in page the 10th *Mr. Dangerfield* tells you, That the Method and Management of the Plot against the *Presbyterians*, was to be Trusted only to the 5 Lords in the Tower, and *Mr. Neville*; so that the *Earl of Danby* was to be intrusted in nothing, but the prosecution of *Dr. Oates*, which (as I have already made appear) concern'd none but those Lords.

By all this you may see what a man their Malice hath found of this *Earl*, to make a Partner with those, who are not only seeking his Ruine by all the wayes they can invent, but from whom the said *Earl* is separated by the greatest difference both of Principles and Religion that is possible.

And as it is apparent, that those base Slanders, of the *Earl's* being privy to the Murder of *Sir Edmundb. Godfrey*, and being an inventor of the Plot &c. doe come from the *Papists* against him; so I do from my Soul believe, a great cause of his Persecution and Restraint proceeds from them. Nay so inveterate are they against him, that some will father the Lord *Stafford's* knowledge of the late Prorogation (before it was declared in Council) to come from the *Earl of Danby's* Telling it to the Lord *Stafford*; and yet I have heard the said *Earl* had not then stirr'd out of his Chamber, by reason of sickness, in 11 or 12 weeks; and, I am confident, had not seen the Lord *Stafford* in some time before.

Nor have I ever heard that the *Earl* hath given any Visits, nor received any from any of the *Popish* Lords in the Tower ever since his Confinement.

Having read and heard these foregoing false Stories, and many such Invectives against this *Earl*, I thought my self bound in conscience to inform the World of them; that by comparing things which are Publick (as I have done) they may convince themselves of the great Injuries done every day to this Lord, and thereby judge whether all who profess themselves good *Protestants*, ought not rather to commiserate this Lord's Unjust sufferings, than have any Share in adding to his Misfortunes.

Here

Here follow the Pages 12, 13, 14, & 15. of Mr. Dangerfield's Narrative in his own words, which are refer'd to, in Page 7, 12, 13, 14. of this Discourse. *Viz.*

Lord Powis asked me whether I had a faculty of Writing abusively, and like a Satyrift, and was Master of such a Style as would look well in Print? for, said his Lordship, that Sot Nevil is so very dilatory, it is not to be endured; therefore if you dare undertake the Writing of some sound Pamphlets, it might be of very great Use to us. To which I replied, *That I was not a Competent Judge of my own abilities, but would do my best.*

Then Lord Powis told me, Mrs. Cellier should be allowed Ten shillings per Week to Dyet me, and his Lordship would allow me Three pound per Week for my expences in Business; and what ever hapned to be beyond that, I should put into a Bill, and bring or send it to his Lordship, and I should forthwith have it paid; the said Three pound ten shillings per Week was constantly paid me, whilst I serv'd them.

Then I was advis'd by both the Lords to lodge at Powis-House, which advice came very seasonably; for I knew very well, that I had given my Landlord just occasion to harbour strange thoughts of me, and conceive suspicions to my disadvantage.

About the Eighteenth of June, the Countess, who knew that I was then lodged in Powis-House, and by her Lord's order, sent me with a Letter to the Lady Tukes Lodgings in Scotland-Yard; which Lady seemed to take particular notice of me, and was pleas'd to say she liked me very well, and gave me two Guineys, and demanded if I durst undertake a desperate Enterprize? I answer'd Yes; then she went into her Closet, and wrote a Letter for the Countess of Powis, and gave it me to carry her, and so I took my leave.

In my Return, I went to wait on my Lord Castlemain, who asked where I had been? I answer'd, at the Lady Tukes, and so told his Lordship how she received me; at which he seem'd to be well-pleas'd, and smil'd, and demanded if the Countess of Powis had not delivered to me, her self, or caus'd to be deliver'd some Papers relating to a business of Oates, for which one Knox and Lane were in Prison in the Gate-House. To which I answer'd No. Then said he, I will write to the Countess about it, and order you Money, and give you directions how to proceed in it. There I wait'd till his Lordship writ a Letter, which I carried to Lady Powis; but first being sent for up, I gave her Ladyship the Letter, who, before she open'd it, told me, Mrs. Cellier would give me Money to get Knox and Lane out

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out of Prison. I then asked what they were in Custody for? The Lady modestly answered, 'twas by *Oates's* means; but if I could get them out, he should not reign long in his Roguery. From thenceforth I undertook it, and had all the business, and Papers delivered me, by one *Lawson* an Attorney of *Clement's-Inn*, who had been endeavouring two Terms to remove them by *Habeas Corpus*, but could not: I forthwith went to the *Gate-house*, and found means to supply them both with Money, though they were close confin'd; and, by a course that I took upon advice with the Priests, there they had Pen, Ink, and Paper conveyed to them both, but especially *Lane*, who writ the first Letter, which was to this effect,

I will die, before I will comply with that Villain Oates, and if any good People will work my Liberty, I will do the Catholicks the greatest Service imaginable, by Discovering what I know of Oates; This is from the bottom of my heart, and what I will die with,

Note.

So help me God.

This Letter was taken from *Lane's* hand under the door, by one *Tempest*, then a Prisoner in the *Gate-House*; and by him given to one *Mrs. Ayry*, who brought it to me at *Powis-House*, and I shewed it the Countess, who was more transported with joy than I can express; and breaking out as it were into a Rapture, *Has God given us this unexpected help*, said she? *Well, we will (God willing) employ it to the best advantage*; charging me to use all expedition to get them both out; and then I withdrew. But as I understood the next day, the good Countess, was the greater part of that day on her knees, to render Thanks to Almighty God, for this new occasion of strength, that she supposed he had been pleased to bless their Cause with.

Note.

From that time I was very industrious in this business; and had several Motions in the *Kings-Bench*, before I could get either of them to the Bar; but at last I brought *Lane* out upon Bail, to the great Satisfaction of the whole Catholick Party, but *Knox* I could not get out; but have since been inform'd by himself, That *Nevel* told some Friends of his, that he did it; and had Money from the Lords in the Tower for that purpose.

Note.

Now when I had got *Lane* out, the Countess ordered me to bring him to *Powis-House*; and lodge him there for the present, and she would allow *Mrs. Cellier* Ten shillings per Week for

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His

His Dyet also, as she did for mine; then came Mr. *Wood*, the Countesses Gentleman, one day, and said his Lord had ordered that *Lane* should go by the name of *Johnson*, as he did afterwards, during the time he continued there, which was about three Weeks; and Lady *Powis* in my Hearing gave order to the Porter, that he should bid the rest of the Servants take care that Mr. *Johnson* went not abroad, for they were in a thousand fears and Jealousies concerning him.

First, lest Mr. *Oates* should find him, and clap him again in Prison.

Secondly, lest he should run away of his own accord to Mr. *Oates*, and be prevail'd with to give some Testimony against the Lords. And

Thirdly, lest the whole Design of this Plot should miscarry thereby; for they thought it concerned them as much, to invalidate the King's Evidence, and render the persons of his Witnesses infamous; as to act any other part whatsoever.

At the same time that Mr. *Wood* gave order for the altering of *Lane*'s name, I gave him a Bill of *Lane*'s Charges to carry to the Lords in the *Tower*, which amounted to near Twenty pound; about Fourteen days after, the Lords had other occasions for raising a contribution, and amongst other Money, this was then collected, and paid to Mrs. *Cellier*; for she had furnished me with Money for *Lane*, as she did for my own business, to the value of near One hundred pound; and that very night that *Wood* paid Mrs. *Cellier* the twenty pound (for that was the Sum he brought) he smiled on me; and told me, it would not be long ere the worst was finished; For, said he, the Lords have consulted, that before *Oates* is indicted, there must a Rumour be spread abroad of a Plot amongst the *Presbyterians*; and something of it must be made appear, to beget a belief in the People of it; the management of it, he told me, or at least a great part of it, would be for me in a little time.

But after *Lane* came from the *Gate-House*, and before *Knox* could get out, one Mrs. *Airy*, who went to *Lane* before, went then to *Knox*, or rather to the Priests; for they were so close confin'd, that 'twas very difficult, and dangerous to speak with either of them themselves; but some of the Priests there conveyed Pen, Ink, and Paper to him under the door, with which he also wrote; and as he has told me since, he had that convenience of writing the Papers against Mr. *Oates*, which, he said, were all Pen'd by himself.

Now

Now when *Knox* was released out of Prison, he came also to *Powis-House* by the direction of *Mrs. Ayr*, where by the Countesses order he treated with *Mrs. Cellier* about the Indicting of *Oates*; and *Knox* did by *Mrs. Celliers* Request enter into a correspondence with me; and a while after deliver'd me the Papers which *Lane* and *Osborn* had given the said *Knox* at first, before either of them were committed: Those Papers I sent to the Tower, from thence they were sent to *Nevel* in the *Kings-Bench*, who made what alterations in them, he thought fit; and sent a Letter to me by *Mrs. Cellier's* Boy (who used to carry Letters between his Mistress and me, and *Nevel*, and the Tower, &c.) with directions to draw up an Affidavit for *Lane* to Swear (which I did accordingly) before Sir *James Butler*. Note.

A little after this, *Nevel* sent *Knox* his Papers to Lord Castlemain to peruse, and make what additions or alterations his Lordship should think fit. He sent them to *Mrs. Cellier*, who gave them me to deliver to *Knox*, which I did; and he has since out of those Papers, drawn an Affidavit, and persuaded one *Osborn*, lately a Servant to Mr. *Oates*, to swear the same before Sir *William Dolbin* Knight; and these are the Papers, out of which an Indictment was to be framed against Mr. *Oates*; the Contents of the said Paper I cannot remember, farther than the bare matter of Fact, which was, Note.

That Mr. *Oates* was to be Indicted, first for Perjury; and if he were not Convicted upon that, then a second Indictment was to be prefer'd against him for a Buggery pretended to have been attempted on the person of *John Lane*, who I suppose now offers to Swear the same: though the Indictment was drawn by the most venomous Pens of Lord Castlemain, and his true Second, *Nevel*; and what he should Swear, was by them, and others put into his Mouth. Note.

When *Knox* had prevail'd with *Osborn* to Swear the said Affidavit, he came to shew it me, and offered to let me take a Copy; but I being employed in other Affairs of greater importance, had not then time to Transcribe it, only I told the Countess what *Knox* had done, who was very glad of it; and then believed what I said to be truth (though now her Ladyships opinion of me is much alter'd) and the Countess at the same time asked, if *Knox* were in a Condition to defend his Tryal. I told her I supposed not, for that he had divers times desired me to lend him Money; Then the Countess promised he should have Money; and bid me tell him so, to encourage him, (which I did) and the Countesses farther Command was, Note.

was, that if *Knox* did at any time want Money, I should furnish him, and place it to account ; and that all the Money, which should be Collected for him should pass through my name, and as Money lent him by me, lest any thing should be discover'd.

About the Fourteenth of *July*, I went to the *Tower* ; for their Lordships had sent for me, where I received orders to have *Lane* sent out of the way from *Powis-house* ; for, said the Lord *Powis*, I am informed that *Oates* is making enquiry after him, which if it be true, and he should be found at my house, 'twould ruine us all ; but I being employed in other business could not send him away immediately, according to his Lordships Order.

About a day or two after, the Countess, amongst other things, earnestly desired me to send *Lane* into the Countrey ; for, said she, *Oates* is bustling about after him. The next day Mr. *Wood* brought me Money, which I gave to *Lane*, and such necessaries as he had occasion for, and I sent him down to *Greys* in *Essex* ; and promised to send him ten shillings every week (for that was his constant allowance.) Soon after, he sent me word, that *Oates* had by some means or other heard where he was ; and therefore he desired to be removed to some other place ; then by the Countess's order I took horse, and went to him, and sent him to Town again to *Powis-house*, where he continued two or three days longer.

FINIS.
